



## Memorandum

To: Provosts and Chief Academic Officers  
From: Paula K. Compton Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor  
Date: April 26, 2022  
Subject: Endorsement Survey: Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Introduction to Automotive Service and Repair

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**Background Information:** The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) is reaching out to collect responses from all two- and four-year Ohio public institutions of higher education regarding a proposed alignment for the Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Introduction to Automotive Service and Repair.

The Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide (ITAG) is a statewide transfer initiative that guarantees the award of college-level credit to students earning agreed-upon industry recognized credentials. The ITAG initiative was instituted by the Chancellor in February 2021. Students meeting credentialing requirements, regardless of where the learning was achieved, will be eligible to earn credit for specified courses deemed equivalent by faculty and endorsed by Ohio's public institutions of higher education. As some CTAGs use credentials to align with college credit, ITAGs expand the concept of the value of credentials. To reduce variability across Ohio in the transfer credit evaluation and application process, a set of college-level learning outcomes will be established for each ITAG. The set of learning outcomes, which will be aligned with applicable third-party program accreditation, credentialing, and/or other industry standards, will be vetted by faculty and industry as needed.

**Introduction to Automotive Service Repair CTAG (CTAUT005):** Learning outcomes for Introduction to Automotive Service and Repair were endorsed by the state through a panel collaboration and statewide survey and were announced in July 2017. These same learning outcomes were recently reviewed as part of the normal revision process. The credentials that align with the existing learning outcomes are Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Automotive Technician certificate and ASE Automotive and Light Repair certificate. Institutions have submitted documentation demonstrating how their courses meet the CTAUT005 learning outcomes. Submissions are reviewed and approved by a faculty panel of experts. To access postsecondary credit, students must complete the aligned secondary course at an approved institution and receive a qualifying score on the end-of-course exam.

**Introduction to Automotive Service and Repair ITAG:** The CTAG established a set of statewide learning outcomes based upon the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation exam for Maintenance and Light Repair or Automobile Service and Technology. The proposed ITAG would use the same learning outcomes and expand access to those who received training in settings outside of Ohio's secondary programs



and Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs). If approved, the ITAG would allow students who hold an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Automobile Technician certificate or ASE Automobile and Light Repair certificate to be awarded 2 credit hours for the Introduction to Automotive Service and Repair course.

**Introduction to Automobile Service and Repair CTAG vs. Introduction to Automobile Service and Repair ITAG:** Credit for the Introduction to Automobile Service and Repair ITAG will be awarded in an identical manner to that of the CTAG: Under the ITAG initiative, students with a current ASE Master Automobile Technician or ASE Automobile Service and Light Repair credential will be awarded college credit for courses similar to the content stated in the learning outcomes. To be eligible for CTAG credit, students must complete an approved program at an Ohio secondary institution or OTC and either receive a passing score on the end-of-course exam (secondary) or hold one of the above-mentioned credentials (OTC).

**What We Need from You:** This memo addresses the need for statewide endorsement of the alignment between competencies covered in the ASE Master Automobile Technician certificate and ASE Automobile and Light Repair certificate and the learning outcomes for the existing CTAUT005 CTAG course. Please forward this memorandum and accompanying attachments to the appropriate faculty. Please have **one person** complete the survey using the link below on or before **May 10, 2022**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZDY59LF>

A copy of the proposed ITAG learning outcomes and alignment is included with this memo for reference. The attached PDF of the survey is for reference only and responses should be submitted using the survey link.

Steve Levin of Columbus State Community College serves as our lead faculty expert and worked with a faculty panel to complete this alignment.

Please contact Nikki Wearly, Director of Career-Technical Education Transfer Initiatives, at [nwearly@highered.ohio.gov](mailto:nwearly@highered.ohio.gov) with any questions.

Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

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